

# OverThere

Marines remain ready for any situation around the globe. They have returned to Iraq to relieve Army units in the area west of Baghdad. Marines are training with their foreign counterparts in the Netherlands and providing humanitarian assistance in Kenya. Some Marines embarked on a heartfelt journey to Iwo Jima. From live fire training in the Atlantic Ocean to an annual exercise in the Philippines, the individual Marines who make up the Marine Corps are prepared for any job *OverThere*.



## Camp Victory, Kuwait

Marines from 1st Force Service Support Group's Mortuary Affairs Unit keep vigilant in the back of an imaginary vehicle while learning how to react to a convoy ambush Feb. 23 at Camp Victory. When not performing mortuary affairs operations, the unit will be providing security on vehicle convoys. Insurgents in Iraq have commonly attacked military convoys forcing the Marine Corps to focus heavily on reacting to ambushes prior to deploying there. Approximately 25,000 Marines and sailors will be deployed to Iraq and Kuwait under the command of I Marine Expeditionary Force in the coming months, with 1st FSSG making up nearly a fifth of the troops.

Photo by Lance Cpl. Samuel Bard Valliere



## Exercise Edged Mallet-04,



## Kenya

Marines of Charlie Company, the light armored reconnaissance company attached to Battalion Landing Team 1/1, conduct patrols and other basic infantry training with Kenyan Army paratroopers of the 20th Paratrooper Bn., Jan. 12. The training was part of Exercise Edged Mallet-04, an annual bilateral exercise that encompasses basic infantry skills training, a humanitarian assistance project and medical and dental assistance clinics in several locations throughout the coastal region of Kenya.

Photo by Sgt. Adrian Pascual



## USS Wasp,



## Atlantic Ocean

Lance Cpl. Kirk Barr, an 81mm mortar man assigned to Weapons Company, Battalion Landing Team, 1st Bn., 6th Marines, loads 5.56mm rounds into a magazine in preparation for a live-fire shoot off the starboard elevator of the USS Wasp as the ship transits the Atlantic Ocean. BLT 1/6 is the ground combat element of the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable), which left North Carolina Feb. 19 for a deployment to the European and Central Command theaters.

Photo by Cpl. Robert A. Sturkie







Puerto Princesa, Palawan



## Philippines

The beads of sweat trickling down Lance Cpl. Trevor Adams' face Feb. 22 are evidence of the hot weather of Puerto Princesa. Adams is a member of the Force Protection Team participating in Exercise Balikatan '04. The annual exercise is designed to improve planning, combat readiness and interoperability between U.S. and Philippine military forces.

*Photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Felix Garza Jr.*



Iwo Jima,



## Japan

Lance Cpl. Jermain Allen, 20, an infantryman with 2nd Fleet Anti-terrorism Security Team Company, 7th Platoon, threads a chain through one of his dog tags Jan. 17 and prepares to hang it among hundreds of others on a memorial here honoring Marines who fought for control of the island during World War II.

*Photo by Petty Officer 3rd Class Patrick Dille*



Curacao,

## Netherlands Antilles



Lance Cpl. Justin McCrory of Kilo Company, 3rd Battalion, 25th Marine Regiment, traverses a single rope for 60 meters over water in the fifth event of the Nassau Run, a test of endurance and teamwork. McCrory and other Marines took part in Dutch Bilat I, and trained with their counterparts from the Royal Netherlands Marine Corps.

*Photo by Cpl. Andrew Williams*

